



Newsletter

1 June 2021 | Issue 2

Upcoming Events

See our [Calendar](#) for local (and virtual) nature-related events.



Let's Stay Social

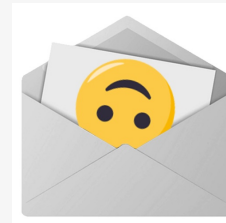
We'd love to hear from you!



Newsletter Contributions

Do you have nature stories, news, event details, or photographs you'd like to share with us as we assemble our new club newsletters?

Please send them to naturenanaimo@gmail.com with the subject "Newsletter" and we'll be in touch!



Club Events

Monthly Meeting

June 17th Zoom meeting

We are working on plans for a regular but more informal and interactive June Zoom meeting with a focus on members sharing their nature experiences and ideas. It will also be a great time to share thoughts on what we want to do now that the covid restrictions are being phased out and we can once again share nature experiences in person!

Did you miss our meeting in May?
Don't let it 'bug' you!

The meeting recording is available [here](#)

(Access Passcode: 4c@TFWem).

Jennifer kindly provided us with a copy of her PowerPoint slides that she used during the part of her presentation that we were unable to record.

Access the PDF [here](#).

Lepidoptera at risk in south-eastern British Columbia



Jennifer Heron
Provincial Invertebrate Conservation Specialist
Surrey



Tim Ebata
Provincial Forest Health Officer
Victoria



Upcoming Outing(s)

This is the time of year that we are rewarded with some very low tides during mid-day - ideal for exploring the intertidal zone. We just had some great low tides last week. The next outstanding opportunity will be from **June 23rd to June 27th**. These low tides will provide the best opportunities of the year. We will share more information as the dates approach and may be able to arrange an organized outing if the covid plans remain unchanged. Some excellent locations include the shoreline next to Cedar boat ramp, the rocky outcroppings and beach in Lantzville around the end of Sebastian Rd and both Piper's lagoon and Neck Point. For the more adventurous - the best place I have seen on the east side of the island is at Willow Point in Campbell River.



Photos taken by Doug Fraser during recent low tide explorations on Vancouver Island.

Broom Busting at Buttertubs: Success!

During the first two weeks of May, Nature Nanaimo members conducted a number of "broom busting" activities in Buttertubs marsh. We removed a large amount of broom near the entrance to the west marsh as well as removing broom growing among the hawthorns in the East marsh. Many thanks to those that volunteered their time and energy and for helping organize these events. We hope to take on some other invasive species in Buttertubs in the months ahead so stay tuned.



Nature News and Nuggets

Detection Doggos

'Conservation Dogs' Are Sniffing Out Species Humans Can't See



Fagen and Dia. Photo courtesy NYNJTC

Thanks to Tom for sharing this "good news" article:

Detection dogs are the best method scientists have for locating invasive plants and endangered animals. They're fast, accurate, and less expensive or cumbersome than technologies like motion-sensitive cameras. One organization found that its detection dogs located brown tree snakes five times faster than humans and pin-pointed bobcats nine times more frequently than cameras. And rooting out invasive plants over a swathe of a few hundred acres is far easier for a trained dog than a human.

Endangered Butterfly Sightings

The Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project Team produced this poster to provide info about TCB identification and how to report sightings. They are trying to get a better sense of the species' distribution in BC. Please report butterfly sightings to Taylors.Checkerspot@gov.bc.ca.



Have you seen this butterfly?

Taylor's Checkerspot is an endangered butterfly. Historically, it ranged on southeastern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands from Victoria to Comox.

The butterfly lives in natural meadows, fields, clearcuts, ephemeral wet sedge swamps and roadside areas.

Please report butterfly sightings to Taylors.Checkerspot@gov.bc.ca

The Taylor's Checkerspot project team is a group of biologists working collaboratively on recovering this species in Canada. For more information, please visit www.goert.ca/activities/taylors-checkerspot/

Management of the Conservation Lands Program



Date: May 11, 2021

This audit examined whether the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development has effectively managed the Conservation Lands Program to conserve important habitats for significant fish and wildlife species such as species at risk and migratory birds.

Report and Audit at a Glance available [here](#).

Circle Of Life: Buttertubs Marsh



Nature Trust BC:

What better way to celebrate our 50th anniversary than by getting out onto Nature Trust properties? In this exclusive video series, follow former board member Dr. Rob Butler as he tours some beloved properties in the southwest corner of the province.

[Episode 1: Buttertubs Marsh](#)

Rob discovers the treasures of Buttertubs Marsh in the heart of Nanaimo.

Bats and Hummingbird Feeders

Recently an interesting photo has been circulated on social media showing bats feeding at a hummingbird feeder. The photo has generated excitement and some confusion. The photo was taken in Arizona and is of lesser long-nosed bats. These are nectar feeding bats and so are attracted to hummingbird feeders. Unfortunately, all of the bats in BC are insectivorous and are not attracted to our feeders so don't spend too many hours watching your feeders in the middle of the night. :)



Citizen Science Opportunity (Poop Patrol?)



Some members shared an unusual [CBC new story](#) this past week - researchers in BC are gathering data on forest/ecosystem health by examining the feces of hummingbirds AND they want the help of citizens. So - if you have hummingbird feeders and wish to become involved in collecting the tiniest of bird droppings you can contact the people at the Rocky Point Bird Observatory as described below . . .

In a one off collection this year, the RPBO hummingbird project is looking to acquire a large volume of hummingbird feces. This material will be used in the development of assays to test for herbicides. Those interested are asked to contact us at hummingbird@rpbo.org for more information. Please provide your name and location in the email.

Monthly Roundup of Nature Events

Plogging for Orcas in June

Join Georgia Strait Alliance's Plogging for Orcas Challenge this Orca Month!

About this event:

Take the pledge to pick up 75 pieces of litter this month of June while raising funds and awareness about endangered Southern Resident orcas and GSA's work to protect them and their habitat.

Sign up on Charity Village: <https://give.charityvillage.com/plog4orcas/>

Stay tuned for exciting prizes to win and special Orca Month updates and events!
For more information: <https://georgiastrait.org/about-us/events/plog4orcas/>



World Oceans Day!

Celebrations in Nanaimo – June 8th

12-4pm at Departure Bay Beach

Join Nanaimo Science in celebrating World Oceans Day! Visit our station at Departure Bay Beach for intertidal exploration, a fun crab craft, and a scavenger hunt! Participants are eligible to win some fantastic prizes including wonderful books, ID sheets for marine species, or a digital microscope!

This free event will have COVID safety measures in place to ensure social distancing and sanitation practices are upheld. Families with children of all ages, and all individuals are welcome to attend!

An online and asynchronous version of this event will also be available.

<https://stayhappening.com/e/world-oceans-day-E2ISTNIDG1O>



Virtual Celebrations

MERS (Marine Education & Research Society):

Ocean Day presentation with The Marine Detective

June 8, 7-8:30pm on Zoom

In this evening presentation, Jackie will share her journey of learning from cold dark seas. It will be her story of humility, precaution, inspiration and connection, motivated by wanting to contribute to the well-being of future generations.

Content is appropriate for all ages but the educational approach will be aimed at an adult audience. The small charge is to help support our work.

Read more about this event and register [here](#).



Last year's virtual celebrations (organized by the City of Nanaimo):

<https://www.nanaimo.ca/parks-recreation-culture/parks-events/world-oceans-day-2021-virtual-celebrations>

Online education resources for kids: <https://www.shorelinecleanup.ca/onlineeducation>

United Nations World Oceans Day 2021 events and activities:

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/oceans-day>

National Insect Appreciation Day – June 8th

From the Entomological Society of Canada:

On June 8th, we invite you to celebrate National Insect Appreciation Day (NAIAD) with thousands of insect enthusiasts, amateurs, and professionals all across Canada. For a second year, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the celebrations will take place online. Hence, it will still be possible to participate in the “insect picture challenge” on social media. We hope that this challenge will prompt the public to develop their curiosity towards insects and raise awareness about the presence of insects all around us.

In order to participate in the challenge, a person will have to post a least one picture of an insect during the National Insect Appreciation Day on June 8th. When posting the photo, the participant should include associated hashtags and nominate five friends by inviting them to also post an insect picture.

Hashtags :

#InsectPictureChallenge

#NationalinsectDay

More information [here](#).



Sponsored by the Entomological Society of Canada (<https://esc-sec.ca/>)

photo by DIANE OZDAMAR

NALT (Nanaimo & Area Land Trust) AGM – June 9th

NALT is having their Annual General Meeting on June 9th at **5:30pm** online.

Following the business of the meeting, Linda Brooymans, NALT's Stewardship Coordinator, will introduce their new **Pollinator Paradise project**.



[More details](#)

ISCBC Youth Summit Series: The Science of Behavioural Psychology – June 11th

10:30-12:30pm

From the Invasive Species Council of BC ([ISCBC](#)):

What drives social change? Learn how behavioural psychology encourages positive actions in this investigative workshop, part one of the 2021 ISCBC Youth Summit Series.

ISCBC volunteers will explore examples from invasive species research and successful behaviour change programs from North America and Australia. Whether you are just starting to promote better behaviours or are wanting to increase the effectiveness of existing programs,

you will benefit from the knowledge of how to include behavioural psychology in your community service efforts. The techniques you will learn in this training are easy to use and very effective!

While this training session would normally have a registration fee, we are offering it free to any registered ISCBC volunteer. Want to attend but aren't yet a volunteer?

Visit bcinvasives.ca/volunteer for more information. Current ISCBC volunteers may contact their facilitator to attend.

More information [here](#).

Nature Kids BC: Events in June



June 12 @ 11am-12pm: Wild Bird Rehabilitation Centre (Virtual Event)

Join us for a live tour of Le Nichoir bird sanctuary and a “meet and greet” with some of their (temporary) residents. Le Nichoir provides proper care and treatment for injured or orphaned wild birds and releases them back into their natural habitat. It is the largest songbird centre in Canada and annually sees 2,500+ birds (and over 100+ species!). We'll visit the different aviaries (aquatic, woodpecker and songbird) and get all the answers to all your bird related questions ;).

Thank you to our friends at [Plant a Seed and See What Grows Foundation](#) for connecting us. Le Nichoir's mission is to conserve wild birds as part of our natural heritage for future generations. Le Nichoir delivers its mission through the professional and compassionate care of injured and orphaned wild birds and through public environmental education. Learn more here: <https://lenichoir.org>

Mark your calendars! And stay tuned for registration details.

June 13 @ 10-10:45am: Barnacle Bonanza (Virtual Event)

Get ready for the beach – learn about barnacles with marine educator Stephanie Chong. What are those pointy creatures that stick onto the rocks on the beach? Join marine educator Stephanie Chong to learn more about the incredible world of the barnacle, and get ready to explore the beach this summer.

This virtual program is suitable for ages 5-13. Guests can try one complementary program, but otherwise must be registered with naturekidsbc.ca to attend this program.

Sign up for the Zoom link for the live presentation. The link will go out one hour prior to the presentation. Please register only one ticket per device.

Contact ecocentre@dnv.org if you have any questions about registration or any technical issues on the day of the workshop.

Register here: [NatureKids BC – Virtual Barnacle Bonanza Tickets, Sun, 13 Jun 2021 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Beaty Biodiversity Museum: ONLINE Nature Club in June

Join all of the Beaty@Home: Weekly Tour sessions from anywhere around the world at 1:00pm PDT, each week will feature different stories and museum interpreters, sign up directly for each

week on our [calendar](#). All you need is an internet connection. You can call in over telephone, simply register for the Zoom link and the list of numbers.

Exciting Entomology: [June 5 & 6 \(10am\)](#)

With over half a million pinned specimens, 75,000 alcohol-preserved specimens and 25,000 specimens on slides, a visit to the [Spencer Entomological collection](#) at the museum is your chance to see incredible insect diversity.

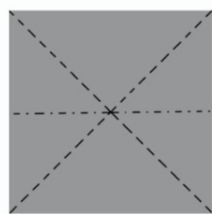
The resources below will support your self-led exploration of the collection:

- Learn how to identify some local insects [using this guide](#), and record your observations [in this log](#).
- Meet the Pollinators! [In this video](#), Tiia Haapalainen from the Spencer Entomological Collection introduces you to some pollination basics, the major insect groups involved with pollination, and how to tell them apart (mimicry abounds!)
- Create your own origami butterflies [using our templates](#) and [video](#).
- Visiting as a group or on your own, follow these instructions to make an [entomology collage](#) based on your observations at the museum.
- Visit the Spencer Entomological Collection's [Online Database](#), filled with thousands of [images!](#)
- We have an [online visitor guide](#) and a [printable floor plan map](#) to help you find your way around the museum. You could also check out our [virtual and audio tours](#) in preparation for your visit.
- Share your images and biodiversity stories with us [here](#), each month we will highlight some of the contributions at our ONLINE Nature Club session.

This self-led exploration of the museum collections is recommended for families with children ages 5-12.

Butterfly B Level: Intermediate

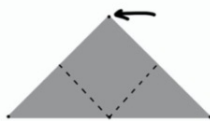
traditional design



Valley fold paper along both diagonals. Mountain fold paper horizontally. Unfold.



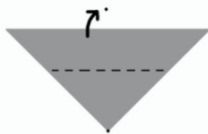
Collapse all folds at the same time.



Waterbomb base. Fold points of top layer to tip of triangle.



Rotate 180 degrees and turn over.



Valley fold top layers slightly more than halfway.



Squash corners flat.



Valley fold in half.



Fold each side down.



Squash flat.



Done.

